

***Congressman  
J. Randy Forbes***  
*Fourth District of Virginia*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Forbes announces \$100,000 in federal funding for Isle of Wight  
House passes Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004***

**Washington, D.C.** – Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) announced that the Isle of Wight County would receive **\$100,000** in federal funding for **Tyler's Beach Federal Navigation Project** as part of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004.

Established in 1968, the Tyler's Beach Boat Harbor and Channel is a federally authorized project in the Norfolk District's Operations and Maintenance program. Located on the west side of the James River, the beach has continued to silt-in to the extent that it can be navigated only during high tides. The Army Corps of Engineers completed a Reconnaissance Report on Economic Feasibility of Maintenance Dredging last September 2002, which confirms that the continued maintenance of the project is economically justified. Tyler's Beach Federal Navigation Project will receive \$100,000 to continue the design and construction of an upland spoil site.

"The use of the Tyler's Beach navigation channel is critical to ensure the economic vitality and stability of the local fishermen, who are in jeopardy of losing access to the James River's commercial fishing industry," Forbes said.

W. Douglas Caskey, Isle of Wight County Administrator, commented, "Funding for Tyler's Beach Federal Navigation Project is critical to the future operation of the Tyler's Beach Boat Harbor and Channel, and the livelihood of those who utilize it. Isle of Wight County extends its gratitude to Congressman Randy Forbes for his vital role in securing federal funding for this significant and timely project."

"Funding for this project is wonderful news for Isle of Wight and for the entire Fourth District of Virginia, especially during the tough times we are in as a nation and amidst tight budgetary constraints across the Commonwealth," Forbes said.

On behalf of the County of Isle of Wight, Forbes requested funding for Tyler's Beach from the House Appropriations Committee. Today, the House of Representatives passed the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004. The bill will now be reviewed by a conference of members within the House and Senate to determine its final provisions.